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CORSO

New Zealand Association for International Relief, Rehabilitation and Development

(Operating the [illegible] Action for Development Programme (FFHC)

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23rd September, 1982

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CIDAC
Centro de Documentação

Premier Ministro,
Dr Pinto Balsema,
Residence Oficial,
San Bento,
1200 Lisbon,
Portugal.

Dear Sir,

Corso - The New Zealand Association for International Relief, Rehabilitation and Development has, since 1975, been concerned that the people of East Timor have not been given the opportunity to determine their own future. As an aid and development organisation, Corso believes that peoples participation in their own development is a crucial ingredient in the development process.

The integration of East Timor by Indonesia into itself is a violation of the aspirations of the East Timorese people and a denial of their rights for political development and independence.

We understand that the Portugese Parliament has continued to assert that East Timor should be properly decolonised and that it accepts responsibility for ensuring that this happens.

We urge that your Government actively pursue all avenues to ensure that the East Timorese people do get the opportunity to determine their own future. We will continue to ask our government to support such actions in the United Nations.

Yours sincerely,

J. L'Estrange,
Chairperson

c.c. - Presidente de Republica
- Mr Paulo Marques
- Madam Lordes Pintassilgo
- Presidente, Comissao Eventual Para Acompanhamento da Situacao em Timor Leste

c.c. - CIDAC
- Timor Newsletter
- Fretilin
- Sr Presidente da Conferencia Episcopal Portuguesa
- Conferencia Episcopal Portuguesa
- Portugese Justice and Peace Office
- CIIR